

WAR DEPARTMENT

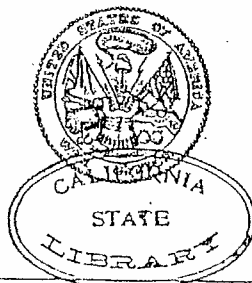
Annual Reports, 1910

(IN FOUR VOLUMES)

Volume I

Reports of

THE SECRETARY OF WAR
THE CHIEF OF STAFF
THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL
THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL
THE JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL
THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL
THE COMMISSARY-GENERAL
THE SURGEON-GENERAL
THE PAYMASTER-GENERAL
THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE
THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER
THE CHIEF OF COAST ARTILLERY



WASHINGTON
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1910

is table includes the strength and power of the estimated item of the test
53301—W.A.R. 1910—Vol. 1. (To face page 100.) No. 1.

¹ This study included the strength and balance of the enlisted men of the Medical Department (Hospital Corps). It is to be observed, however, that the Hospital Corps is not to be counted as a part of the enlisted strength of the Regular Army. (19 June 19, 1904)

B.—TABLE SHOWING THE MONTHLY STRENGTH AND LOSSES FROM ALL CAUSES IN THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES BETWEEN JULY 1, 1909, AND JUNE 30, 1910

[illegible]

C.—TABLE SHOWING THE STRENGTH OF THE ARMY, BY DIVISION AND DEPARTMENTS, AT THE END OF EACH MONTH OF THE FISCAL YEAR.

[illegible]

D.—TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS IN THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES BETWEEN JULY 1, 1909, AND JUNE 30, 1910.

[illegible]



WAR DEPARTMENT

Annual Reports, 1910

(IN FOUR VOLUMES)

Volume III

Reports of

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST
DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF
DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES
DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA
PHILIPPINES DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LUZON
DEPARTMENT OF THE VISAYAS
DEPARTMENT OF MINDANAO
MILITARY ACADEMY—
SUPERINTENDENT
MILITARY PARKS—
CHICKAMAUGA AND CHATTANOOGA
GETTYSBURG
SHILOH
VICKSBURG



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REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLORADO,
Denver, Colo., August 9, 1910.

SIR: In compliance with General Orders, No. 89, series 1901, and No. 47, series 1902, Headquarters of the Army, I have the honor to render the annual report of the administration of the Department of the Colorado for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910.

The distribution of troops on June 30, 1910, was as follows:

Posts.	Commanding officer.	Troops.
Fort Apache, Ariz.....	Capt. James Longstreet, Eighth Cavalry..	Troops E and H, Eighth Cavalry.
Fort Douglas, Utah.....	Col. W. S. Scott, Fifteenth Infantry.....	Fifteenth Infantry.
Fort Duchesne, Utah.....	Capt. C. G. Hall, Fifth Cavalry.....	Troop H, Fifth Cavalry.
Fort Huachuca, Ariz.....	Maj. H. T. Allen, Eighth Cavalry.....	Troops F and G, Eighth Cavalry.
Whipple Barracks, Ariz.....	Maj. Henry Kirby, Eighteenth Infantry..	Companies A, B, C, D, and machine-gun platoon, Eighteenth infantry.
Fort Wingate, N. Mex.....	Capt. F. R. McCoy, Third Cavalry.....	Troops I and M, Third Cavalry.

Indian Scouts: Fort Apache, 15; Fort Huachuca, 6; Fort Wingate, 6; total, 27.

The movements of troops within the department, as well as transfers to and from it during the period covered by this report, are shown in the following statement:

CHANGES OF STATION OF TROOPS.

Fifteenth Infantry: Company F left Fort Douglas, Utah, August 30, arriving at Whipple Barracks, Ariz., September 2, 1909, for temporary duty. (Special Orders, No. 84, Department of the Colorado, 1909.) This company was relieved from temporary duty at and left Whipple Barracks, Ariz., November 17 and joined its proper station, Fort Douglas, Utah, November 19, 1909. (Special Orders, No. 114, Department of the Colorado, 1909.)

Eighteenth Infantry: The First Battalion, with machine-gun platoon, arrived at Whipple Barracks, Ariz., for station from the Philippines November 16, 1909. (General Orders, No. 213, War Department, December 29, 1908.)

Twenty-first Infantry: The whole regiment (except Company F) left Fort Logan, Colo., September 3, 1909, and Company F left Whipple Barracks, Ariz., September 4, 1909, for service in the Philippine Islands, per General Orders, No. 213, December 29, 1908, War Department, and General Orders, No. 64, August 26, 1909, Department of the Colorado.

Near the slopes of the Sandia range of mountains land in abundance and suitable for military purposes is available—in fact, something like 23,000 acres, much of which is government land.

In the event of the abandonment of this post at an early date the two troops at Wingate might be sent to Fort Apache and then the two troops of the Eighth Cavalry at this station transferred to Fort Huachuca, Ariz., where it is deemed advisable a full squadron of cavalry should be maintained.

Fort Huachuca, Ariz.: The strategic and political importance of a military post somewhere in southeastern Arizona is apparent. The mines being developed are numerous and important and are rapidly increasing in number, new projects of railway construction are rumored, and it is not only in a district where trouble may be looked for at home, but in the vicinity of an annoying frontier section. Twice during the period covered by this report the troops from Huachuca have been called upon to investigate reports concerning the organization of armed revolutionary bands and to adopt precautions to enforce the neutrality agreements between our Government and Mexico.

It is believed that a full squadron of cavalry should be stationed and maintained at Fort Huachuca. As a result more or less expensive reconstruction work should be undertaken at once and the present water supply of the post be increased by piping water 7 miles from Garden Springs on the south and on the reservation. The supply of water would then be abundant.

On the other hand, if the semineglect of Fort Huachuca during the past few years is significant and its future abandonment is contemplated, then I recommend the establishment of a new post in this section of Arizona to accommodate at least a squadron of cavalry. Suitable sites are available in the Sulphur Springs Valley in the vicinity of Douglas, Ariz. Pure, wholesome water can be procured by driving wells.

GENERAL REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

The large number of and the varied character of detached-service details introduced in recent years and the various laws affecting the size, organization, and constituent elements of our Army since 1901 have introduced a condition affecting the permanency and continuity of command that can not carelessly be passed by if it is not to expand into a serious defect in our system of discipline and training, more particular reference being had to the line.

One very general outcome of this has already become apparent and that is that service with troops does not impress one as being honored and respected as it formerly was; the system can not accomplish the best results when any form of service is viewed as more important or more creditable than the training and the leading of the troops.

I desire to avail myself of the opportunity to refer to our system of training and instruction, having reference more particularly to that of the commissioned personnel. The service and garrison schools have accomplished much; the training of our troops has, in general, proceeded along more broad lines. But the inquiry may be perti-

nently made—has the esprit of the Army and the spirit of subordination of the commanded to the commander made correspondingly satisfactory advances or otherwise?

During the transition stage through which we are now passing there are two elements to be looked for and to be avoided, one—that of giving undue weight to theory as opposed to applied instruction, and the other—the tendency noticeable at times in general orders toward detailed prescriptive requirement. An officer who will exercise the authority vested in him, who will ever assume legitimate responsibility on proper occasion, must be trained in a school where such acts meet with unqualified approval.

In conformity with the observations just made it is recommended—

That officers who have been granted the advantages of the various service schools of the line upon graduation from such schools be required to then serve the two years following the school course with their regiment or corps, that the regiment or corps may be benefited as well as the individual officer by the advantages afforded by the instruction given.

That officers of the line who have been detached for detail service with the staff departments or for other form of duty be returned to their regiments upon the expiration of such detail, in order that such service may prove beneficial, not only to the officer, but also to the service at large.

That the individual and efficiency reports prescribed by paragraphs 838 and 839, Army Regulations, be no longer required.

And, lastly, I urge that some measure be formulated and enacted into law that will give the Executive the power arbitrarily to retire, without the privilege of appeal, upon the recommendation of a duly constituted board of review, officers of field rank of more than thirty years' service. The compulsory retirement of a certain number of such officers, no matter how small the maximum limitation be made, would result in incalculable advantage to the service. My purpose is emphatically not to provide vacancies to advance the promotion of any class of officers, but solely to suggest a legal means of removing from the active list certain officers—be the cause what it may—who, because of rank and years of service, should, if they were competent to be continued on the active list, properly be placed in responsible positions of authority or command. Otherwise progress is constantly impeded, and we can not look for able administration and training in the numerous ramifications of our service.

Very respectfully,

EARL D. THOMAS,

Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C.